DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 425 037 RC 021 733

AUTHOR	Grenoble, Lenore A., Ed.; Whaley, Lindsay J., Ed.
TITLE	Endangered Languages: Language Loss and Community Response.
ISBN	ISBN-0-521-59712-9
PUB DATE	1998-00-00
NOTE	378p.
AVAILABLE FROM	Cambridge University Press, 110 Midland Ave., Port Chester, NY 10573; Tel: 914-937-9600; Tel: 800-872-7432 (Toll-Free); Fax: 914-937-4712 (cloth: ISBN-0-521-59102-3, $69.95; paper: ISBN-0-521-59712-9, $27.95).
PUB TYPE	Books (010) -- Collected Works - General (020)
EDRS PRICE	Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS	Alaska Natives; American Indian Education; *American Indian Languages; American Indians; Bilingualism; Community Role; Cultural Maintenance; *Eskimo Aleut Languages; Foreign Countries; *Language Maintenance; Language Minorities; Latin Americans; Linguistics; *Native Language Instruction; *Sociolinguistics
IDENTIFIERS	*Endangered Languages; Language Diversity; *Language Shift

ABSTRACT

This edited volume provides an overview of issues surrounding language loss from sociological, economic, and linguistic perspectives. Four parts cover general issues in language loss; language-community responses, including native language instruction in school, community, and home; the value of language diversity and what is lost when a language dies; and mechanisms of language loss. Most specific discussions are concerned with Native American languages in both North and Latin America. Chapters include: (1) "Western Language Ideologies and Small-Language Prospects" (Nancy C. Dorian); (2) "Toward a Typology of Language Endangerment" (Lenore A. Grenoble, Lindsay J. Whaley); (3) "Technical, Emotional, and Ideological Issues in Reversing Language Shift: Examples from Southeast Alaska" (Nora Marks Dauenhauer, Richard Dauenhauer); (4) "Mayan Efforts toward Language Preservation" (Nora C. England); (5) "A Chronology of Mohawk Language Instruction at Kahnawa:ke" (Kaia'titahkhe Annette Jacobs); (6) "Language Endangerment in South America: A Programmatic Approach" (Colette Grinevald); (7) "The Significance of Diversity in Language Endangerment and Preservation" (Marianne Mithun); (8) "On Endangered Languages and the Importance of Linguistic Diversity" (Ken Hale); (9) "Living Words and Cartoon Translations: Longhouse 'Texts' and the Limitations of English" (Christopher Jocks); (10) "Documenting Rhetorical, Aesthetic, and Expressive Loss in Language Shift" (Anthony C. Woodbury); (11) "Impact of Language Variation and Accommodation Theory on Language Maintenance: An Analysis of Shaba Swahili" (Andre Kapanga); (12) "A Way to Dusty Death: The Matrix Language Turnover Hypothesis" (Carol Myers-Scotton); and (13) "Copper Island Aleut: A Case of Language 'Resurrection'" (Nikolai Vakhtin). Contains over 300 references, indexes of languages and names, and a general index. (SV)

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